

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
The Honorable Edward F. Shea

United States of America,

Plaintiff,

v.

Christopher Adam Renfroe,

Defendant.

No. 4:17-cr-6030-EFS

**Memorandum Re Hearing on  
Supervised Release**

**Without Oral Argument  
January 3, 2024, 6:30 p.m.**

Christopher Renfroe files the instant memorandum regarding his hearing on his alleged violations of supervised release, set for Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Mr. Renfroe is out of custody and is prepared to appear at this hearing.

Mr. Renfroe currently has five pending violations, all set forth in a single petition.<sup>1</sup> Those alleged violations are:

1) Mandatory Condition 1, based on charges of Assault-DV and Destruction/Removal of Property-DV filed in Benton County District Court case number 2A054166;<sup>2</sup>

2) Mandatory Condition 1, based on a charge for violating a no-contact order filed in Benton County District Court case number 3A0534187;

3) Special Condition 5, based on testing positive for methamphetamine on September 20, 2023;

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<sup>1</sup> See ECF 53. Mr. Renfroe's counsel has been advised by probation that additional violations (in the form of positive drug tests) have occurred and will be filed in a supplemental petition prior to the revocation hearing, to be incorporated.

<sup>2</sup> The Benton County District Court case number listed in the Petition is incomplete. There is a 7 at the end, making it 2A0541667.

1 4) Special Condition 5, based on testing positive for marijuana on September 20,  
2 2023; and

3 5) Mandatory Condition 1, based on a charge for violating a no-contact order  
4 filed in Benton County District Court case number 3A0673729.

5 Mr. Renfroe will not be making admissions to Violations 1, 2, or 5. Given the nature of  
6 the violations (criminal charges for which no finding or admission of guilt has been  
7 made), Mr. Renfroe has a Fifth Amendment right to not incriminate himself. Counsel  
8 has confirmed with the Benton County District Court that the charge underlying  
9 Violation 1 has already been dismissed, and assumes that both the United States and  
10 Probation will support dismissal of that violation. The district court has advised that  
11 the underlying charges for Violations 2 and 5 are both set for a hearing on February 7,  
12 2024. Mr. Renfroe is prepared to admit to Violations 3 and 4.

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15 Mr. Renfroe has been on supervised release since July 2021. He had  
16 approximately 13 months of compliant behavior until being charged with the two  
17 offenses listed in Violation 1, which have now been dismissed. Mr. Renfroe next used  
18 marijuana for approximately two weeks in January 2023.<sup>3</sup> He then had no further  
19 violations or issues until September 2023. At that time, he was arrested for a no-contact  
20 order violation following a traffic stop. A few days later, he tested positive for marijuana  
21 and meth. A few weeks later, he was arrested a second time for another no-contact  
22 order violation following a traffic stop.  
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<sup>3</sup> See ECF 40-1 at p. 1.

1           Following his latest arrest in October, Probation filed a petition and the Court  
2 issued a warrant. However, Mr. Renfroe apparently was released from state custody and  
3 not held on the federal warrant (which may not have been issued and in the system  
4 prior to his release). Mr. Renfroe was not aware he had a warrant and continued to  
5 abide by his conditions of supervision, including submitting a monthly report in  
6 November. It was not until December that Mr. Renfroe became aware of his federal  
7 warrant. Upon learning of it, Mr. Renfroe contacted his probation officer and arranged  
8 to self-surrender. He did so on December 19, 2023, and had an initial appearance the  
9 same day. Mr. Renfroe, who lives in the Tri-Cities, drove to Yakima to self-surrender.  
10 His girlfriend, Melanie Salazar, traveled with him.<sup>4</sup>

11           Magistrate Judge Ekstrom ultimately denied the United States' motion for  
12 detention after a contested hearing.<sup>5</sup> Judge Ekstrom reimposed the existing conditions  
13 of supervised release as conditions of pre-revocation hearing release, with one  
14 additional condition—Judge Ekstrom imposed a no-contact order between Mr.  
15 Renfroe and Ms. Salazar, except for indirect communications via text or email to  
16 arrange for childcare for their respective children.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Renfroe has abided by this  
17 condition but intends to ask this Court to remove it at the January 3 hearing.  
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24 <sup>4</sup> The prior no-contact order was dismissed along with the charge underlying Violation  
25 1, and so their being together on December 19, 2023 was lawful.

<sup>5</sup> See ECF 51, 56.

<sup>6</sup> See ECF 51, 56.

1           Should the Court require any further information or have any concerns in  
2 advance of the hearing, Mr. Renfroe and counsel are happy to address them.  
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5 Dated: December 27, 2023.

6  
7 By s/ Paul Shelton  
8 Paul Shelton, 52337  
9 Federal Defenders of Eastern  
10 Washington and Idaho  
11 306 East Chestnut Avenue  
12 Yakima, Washington 98901  
13 (509) 248-8920  
14 (509) 248-9118 fax  
15 [Paul\\_Shelton@fd.org](mailto:Paul_Shelton@fd.org)  
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**Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that on December 27, 2023, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF System, which will send notification of such filing to the following: Laurel J. Holland, Assistant United States Attorney.

s/ Paul Shelton  
Paul Shelton